

ABSTRACT

An airbag system including a passenger discriminating apparatus that can accurately recognize the type of the person being seated on a vehicle is provided. The discriminating apparatus receives input from a seat weight sensor and human proximity sensors and
5 determines whether a child, an adult, or a child seat is mounted on the seat. The discriminating apparatus provides a signal to an airbag controller that controls the deployment of either a side or front airbag in either the soft or normal mode.